

REMARKS

Claims 5, 6 and 14 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b), as being anticipated by US patent No. 5,340,216 (hereinafter Goldschmidt). Claims 5-8, 12, 14, 15 and 18 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b), as being anticipated by US patent No. 5,741,073 (hereinafter Ribeiro). Claims 9-11, 13, 16, 17 and 19 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ribeiro in view of Goldschmidt. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejections and further requests allowance of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 6-8, 10-11, 13, 15-17 and 19 are presently cancelled. Claims 1-4 were previously cancelled. Accordingly, claims 5, 9, 12, 14, and 18 are pending.

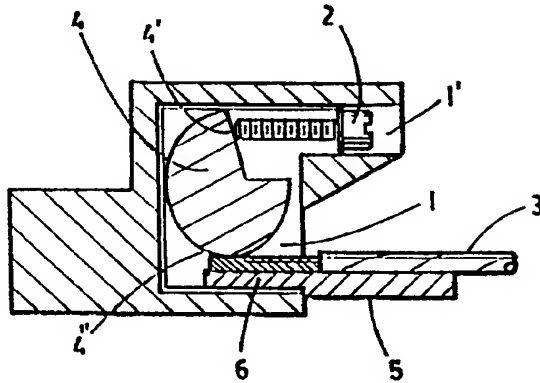
REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

MPEP §2131 provides that a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described in a single prior art reference. The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as contained in the claim. The elements must be arranged as required by the claim.

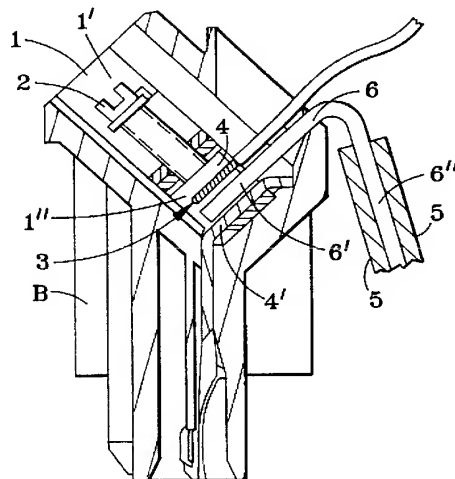
Neither Goldschmidt nor Ribeiro describes or suggests the foregoing structural and/or operational relationships of the claimed invention.

For example, in connection with Goldschmidt, the Examiner construes bridging bar 5 of Goldschmidt to read on the claimed first strip. The Examiner construes extensions or projections 6 of Goldschmidt to read on the claimed terminal lugs. However, simple inspection of FIG. 2 of Goldschmidt shows that extensions 6 are just that. That is, extensions of bridging bar 5 (elements 5 and 6 of Goldschmidt are a common structure). Accordingly, one skilled in the art would appreciate that Goldschmidt completely fails to describe or suggest terminal lugs, which are sandwiched between corresponding inner surfaces of the first and second strips, as recited in the claimed invention.

FIG. 2 of Goldschmidt is reproduced below for the convenience of the reader.



For example, in connection with Ribeiro, the Examiner construes projections 6 of Ribeiro to read on the claimed terminal lugs. FIG. 2 of Ribeiro (reproduced below for the convenience of the reader) shows that projections 6 of Ribeiro do not extend in a straight line. Therefore, one skilled in the art would clearly appreciate that Ribeiro fails to describe or suggest terminal lugs extending straightaway (e.g., straight line) between a first end and a second end, as recited in the claimed invention. Accordingly, both Goldschmidt and Ribeiro fail to constitute prima facie references for sustaining the §102 rejections noted in the Office Communication. Accordingly, this basis of rejection should be withdrawn.

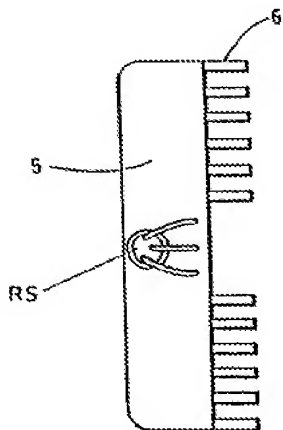


REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

M.P.E.P. 2143.03 provides that to establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claims limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. All words in a claim must be considered for judging the patentability of the claim against the prior art. If an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. 103, then any claim depending there from is nonobvious.

Applicant respectfully notes that regardless of whether or not Goldschmidt describes that which it is cited as allegedly teaching, Goldschmidt fails to cure the above-noted deficiencies of Ribeiro in connection with the claimed invention. Accordingly, the combination of Ribeiro and Goldschmidt fails to constitute a *prima facie* reference for sustaining the §103 rejection noted in the Office Communication.

Moreover, the terminals of the RS sensor of Goldschmidt are clearly not electrically coupled to thermal conductors 6. See FIG. 3 (or FIG. 1) of Goldschmidt, which is reproduced below. Therefore, the combination of Ribeiro and Goldschmidt fails to describe or suggest “a temperature-dependent resistor is arranged, and wherein a pair of terminals of the resistor is electrically coupled to a pair of terminal lugs, the pair of terminal lugs comprising an adjacent pair of terminal lugs”, as recited in the claimed invention. Accordingly, in view of the totality of the foregoing considerations, the combination of Ribeiro and Goldschmidt fails to constitute a *prima facie* reference for sustaining the §103 rejections noted in the Office Communication, and, therefore, this basis of rejection should also be withdrawn.



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Conclusion

Applicant believes that all claims are in condition for allowance, and, therefore, respectfully requests that all claims be allowed. The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper, including the fees specified in 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 (c), 1.17(a)(1) and 1.20(d), or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

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